

MISSOURI ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

**Communication Arts
Practice Test**

Grade 3 – Nonfiction

Student's Name _____
(please print first name and last name)

Teacher's Name _____
(please print first name and last name)

School District _____

Building/Room _____

Date _____

Do not open test booklet until instructed to do so.

MEET A WONDER DOG: THE TIMBER WOLF

It's a dog with a difference. The wolf is a wild dog—big and strong. It's the biggest wild dog in the world.

Male wolves grow larger than females. A male can grow so tall, his shoulder stands higher than a kitchen table. A very big wolf can weigh as much as a man.

Wolves have bristly fur and bushy tails, but they don't all look alike. They come in different sizes and colors. Some are black and some are white. Others are tan, brown—even reddish. But most wolves are gray with streaks of other colors. That's why timber wolves are also called gray wolves.

Unlike many animals, wolves build close families. Parents and their young all live together in a pack of up to 20 or more. They travel together, feed together, play together, and sleep together. Sometimes, an aunt or uncle of the pups joins a pack.

Wolf families are loving and loyal. The parents usually stay together their whole adult lives. They help each other care for their family and keep it safe.

World of Difference

As young wolves grow, they help the parents look after newborn pups. Some of these young wolves stay with their family three or four years. Then they may leave to find a mate and start a new pack—a family of their own.

World of Difference

1. In the story, the author tells her readers that
“Sometimes, an aunt or uncle of the pups joins a pack.”
What does “pack” mean in the story?

What clue from the story helped you figure out the meaning?

2. Using examples from the story, list **three** things that
wolves do together.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

World of Difference

3. Imagine that you have chosen to write a report about wolves. Write **two** questions about wolves for which you would like answers.

1. _____

2. _____

World of Difference

4. In the story, many words are used to describe how a wolf looks. To complete the chart, use words from the story to describe how a wolf looks. Be sure to put a title on your chart.

Wolf's fur	bristly
Wolf's color	
Wolf's size	

5. Do you think that a wolf would make a good pet? Give two details from the story to support your answer.

Circle the letter of the correct answer for questions 5 and 6.

6. In the story, when do some young wolves leave the pack to find mates?
- A. when they are three or four months old
 - B. when they are three or four years old
 - C. when their fur turns gray
 - D. when they learn to feed themselves
7. Which is the main idea of this story?
- A. Timber wolves are wild dogs that build close families.
 - B. Timber wolves travel together, but live alone.
 - C. Timber wolves have different colored fur and do interesting things.
 - D. Timber wolves are also called gray wolves.

World of Difference

8. Now you will write a paper in response to a writing prompt. First, read the prompt in the box below.

You will now have 45 minutes for your prewriting activities such as brainstorming, listing, outlining, and writing a rough draft. Use the pages labeled “prewriting” to record your ideas and your rough draft.

You will then have another 45 minutes in which to write your final paper. Use the pages labeled “final paper” to record your completed work.

**In the story, wolf families do many things together.
Write a story about a time when you did something
with your family.**

Prewriting

Prewriting

[illegible]

Prewriting

[illegible]

Prewriting

[illegible]

Prewriting

[illegible]

Final Paper

[illegible]

Final Paper

[illegible]

Final Paper

[illegible]

Final Paper

[illegible]